

Wyoming Roundup

Wyoming State Organization Recognizes Early Career Educators with Grants-in-Aid

By Yvonne Gatley

Three early career educators were each awarded a \$250 Grant-in-Aid from the Wyoming State Organization. After an application submission and review process the following educators were selected in June:

- Macey Seidel, 2nd grade teacher in Sheridan
- Brenna Thompson, Kindergarten teacher in Sheridan
- Erin Underwood, 4th grade teacher in Rawlins

Each of our winners expressed appreciation for their selection and will apply the funds to projects in their classrooms.

If you know an early career educator (1-5 years of experience) who would be interested, encourage them to apply in the spring for their own Grant-in-Aid. Awards will be considered for both members and non-members of DKG.



Macey Seidel



Brenna Thompson's kindergarten class enjoys the books purchased with her Grant-in-Aid.



Erin Underwood works at her desk.

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Loretta Tonak
President

“You are an amazing group of educators and now my friends.

You have supported my motto of “Seek, Soak, Shine, and GROW” so well this year.”



“Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot see the shadows. It’s what the sunflowers do.”

Helen Keller

A Message from Loretta

Hello WySO DKG members!

What a great year it has been. Thank you so much to those chapters that invited me to visit: Theta, Kappa, Epsilon, Alpha, Phi, Upsilon, Chi, and Lambda. I will hopefully get to Beta, Eta, and Alpha Delta yet this year. You are an amazing group of educators and now my friends.

You have supported my motto of “Seek, Soak, Shine, and GROW” so well this year. I’d like to recognize these chapters for inducting new members: Kappa, Phi, Beta, and Upsilon. I know the rest of you are working hard to increase membership as well. You go, girls. We have remained at 248 members in 11 chapters throughout our state.

I’d also like to thank you for your financial support of my Grant in Aid for an Early Educator. We were able to give three \$250 awards last June at our Leadership Conference. Check out this Round Up for their names and how they used their grant money.

Another thank you to my officers and state chairs. You have done so much to help me and our state DKG. I’d especially like to thank Glenda Reynolds, who gets out the eblasts and newsletters, keeps me in line with the bylaws and rules, and lets me stay at her house. Another big thank you to Yvonne Gatley who is always there for me when I have a question and who set up our state leadership conference last spring. A big congratulations to her for being selected as an international committee chairperson for this next biennium. Thanks to my “bestie” vice presidents, Carrie and Becky, who endured staying in the same room with me in New Orleans and who have helped in so many ways. And lastly, both of my treasurers, Shirley Tranas, and Christy Van Horn. I could never do what you do! Amazing “numbers” people who are always there to help me with the finances.

I was so thrilled to go to DKG International Convention in New Orleans this summer with 5 of the previously mentioned officers. Even though we spent a LOT of time on bylaws and business, we also got to eat amazing food, tour Mardi Gras World, do a “second line parade”, tour the city, and make some memories. We 6 Wyoming girls loved our time in the “Big Easy”. Next summer there are conferences in 3 sites: Detroit, Phoenix, and Finland. Check on the dkg.org website for dates and registration information. Come along and take advantage of all that DKG has to offer you! We’ll be awarding a travel stipend to help one lucky winner at our spring convention.

This brings me to the last point. WySO Spring State Convention will be in Sheridan on May 19, 20, and 21, 2023. Kappa Chapter has already begun planning lots of fun experiences for you. We will make bylaw changes, a new strategic action plan, install new state officers, remember those dear members who have left us, enjoy meals together, learn some new things, and enjoy each other’s company IN PERSON! Your \$75 registration fee will be paid for by the Pauline Lanoy Fund.

I’m looking forward to this second year of my biennium as your state president. My second Vice President and dear friend, Becky Tish, gave me a plaque that says it all... (look to the left)

Invite Ladies to Become DKG Members

Hello, Friends!!

What a beautiful fall this is turning out to be! The weather is spectacular, and the trees are amazing!

Loretta, your enthusiasm is contagious!! Our state meeting was great, and I could feel an energy that had been hard to muster in the last couple of years. Having the bulk of the Covid craziness behind us, it just feels like a new beginning. There is a feeling of excitement and rebirth.

Speaking of enthusiasm and excitement, I would like to talk to you about inviting people to become DKG members. I think people are ready to emerge from their homes and their dreary lives. We can help them with that! DKG is an amazing organization for key women educators of all kinds. It is truly an honor to be a part of this organization! It provides opportunities to learn, improve ourselves, do good for others in our world, and enjoy true fellowship with educators in all areas of this noble profession. What are we waiting for?

There are two simple ways to invite ladies to join DKG. The first is **REINSTATEMENT**. Many of our former members may have fallen away during these last few difficult years. It is time to give them another chance to be DKG members. Reinstatement is simple, and there is no fee to reinstate a member. What have you got to lose by just inviting a former member to come back? The opportunity to check in with an old friend is a gift to you and them. Call them, tell them you have missed seeing them, and invite them back. If they choose to come back, they must pay their dues, and they are again a member of your chapter. Easy! They will be happy to hear that you have been thinking of them, whether they decide to return to your chapter or not. Even if they decline your invitation to be reinstated, they will enjoy hearing about your chapter's current projects and goals. Be sure to tell them they are always welcome to come back when their circumstances make it possible for them to do so.

The second way to invite members to your chapter is through **INVITATION AND INSTALLATION**. I am speaking from the heart when I tell you never to rule out a potential member because you don't think they would be interested in joining. Offer them the opportunity to join this amazing organization, tell them what it means to you to be a member, give them plenty of information, and let –them make the decision. I live in Cheyenne, where we have three wonderful chapters. Several times (I am a slow learner!) I have thought of a person I want to invite to join my chapter, but I convince myself that they probably wouldn't be interested, so I don't invite them. Then I find out that they have joined another of the Cheyenne chapters. I am thrilled that they have joined this amazing organization, but I am sad that I don't get to meet with them every month as members of my chapter. If you would like to invite someone, do it!! Don't be afraid. Don't make excuses. Give them the opportunity to be a part of DKG and your chapter. Make sure that you let them know you are asking them because you think they would enjoy and benefit from this organization. And, more importantly, tell them that you wanted to honor them with membership because you believe they deserve to be a member. If they decline, it is just fine. You have made the offer and planted the seed. Leave them with the assurance that if they ever want to join DKG, they will be welcomed with open arms.

We all know that DKG is a wonderful organization! It is an honor to be a member, and we have the opportunity to share that honor with other key women educators. Just do it!! You will be glad you did!

Thanks, Ladies, and have a great year!!

Becky



*Becky Tish
Second Vice President*

“There are two simple ways to invite ladies to join DKG.”



Christy Van Horn

“Now, new members only need to pay the required dues.”



Message from the Treasurer

Greetings!

First, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Christy Van Horn and I am the state treasurer for WySO DKG. I am a member of the Phi Chapter in Cheyenne and this year I will be celebrating my 16th year in Delta Kappa Gamma. Within my chapter, I have served as President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. I am also celebrating my 20th year of teaching, all of which have been at Johnson Junior High School in Science and AVID. During the summer and fall, I work with the South High Marching Band as the Color Guard Instructor. My husband, Scott, and I have two children: Laura (14) and Jacob (11). Both are very busy and active in sports and activities, which keeps my car rolling during my free time.

For this edition of the Round-Up, I would like to highlight a few treasurer items that impact all DKG members:

- ◆ **Dues:** Each year, September 30th is the deadline for member dues to be submitted to DKG International. Remember that you can begin paying your dues for the current year as soon as your chapter treasurer is ready to accept them. The “paperwork” process for submitting dues has become much easier with the Dues Portal on www.dkg.org. Treasurers, remember to create the invoices so your members do not get the email from International at the end of each month reminding them to pay their dues. For members who have resigned or been dropped from membership, the process of reinstatement is as easy as jumping back into paying dues. Treasurers can also manage reinstatements in the dues portal.
- ◆ **IRS Tax Form 990N:** Now that dues are paid, it is time for treasurers to complete the Tax form 990N. Please send your confirmation to me by November 15th.
- ◆ **Constitutional Change:** During the DKG International Convention, there was an important amendment that passed pertaining to all chapters. The assembly voted to get rid of the induction fee for new members. Now, new members only need to pay the required dues. This went into effect at the convention.

As your state treasurer, I look forward to working with the other state officers and chapters to keep our state organization organized and up to date with everything “treasury.”

If you have any questions, please contact me through email at dkgwysotreasurer@gmail.com

Christy

Early-Career Educator Grants Available

By Yvonne Gatley

Do you know of an early-career educator who would like to have money to purchase books for their classroom? How about money to attend professional development? Maybe these early-career educators would like classroom supplies for science or craft projects? These and more options are available to female educators with 1-5 years of experience in teaching via a Grant-in-Aid supported by the Wyoming State Organization of Delta Kappa Gamma. These grants will be available for DKG and non-DKG members. The number of grants awarded will be dependent on funds collected this year by chapters in support of this state project selected by President Loretta Tonak.

An application for these \$250 grants will be available after the first of the year. Chapter presidents will relay the information to chapter members once the application is available. Information on these grants will also be available in the winter edition of the Roundup.

Please take the time now to identify potential applicants to be ready when the application process is open. We look forward to boosting our early-career educators with these Grants-in-Aid.



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE: Pioneer Women Educators of Wyoming Vol. VI

By Harmony Davidson, Chair

This volume will focus on biographies and autobiographies of women educators in Wyoming born between 1950 and 1960. If someone born before 1950 has not been included in a prior volume, she can be included in this one. Biographies and autobiographies are not limited to members of Delta Kappa Gamma.

See full instructions online: tinyurl.com/DKG-LYLS (URL is case-sensitive) or contact Harmony Davidson with any questions.

Submissions are due February 28, 2023.



Learn About Murdered, Missing, Indigenous Women

By Dr. Michelle Aldrich



DKG
SHOP TALK

WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 9, 2022
7-8:30 P.M.

Join us as Senator Affie Ellis talks about
Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85764474144>

Meeting ID: 857 6447 4144

One tap mobile

[+13017158592](tel:+13017158592).,85764474144# US (Washington DC)

[+13092053325](tel:+13092053325).,85764474144# US

Beginning with the October/November 2022 edition, the *Presidents' Page* will now be in a video format. DKG International has requested state organizations share this information with all chapter members.

Topics in the video message below include:

- Welcome from Trish and Debbie
- Reminder to update information
- Certificates now on Chapter Connect
- Home and cell phone numbers appear on rosters
- File 990N
- 2022 Convention Highlights
- Dues
- Member Spotlight
- Project Spotlight
- Emergency Fund Deadlines

Go to [DKG's YouTube channel](#) to watch it.

Splashes of International Convention 2022 New Orleans



Wyoming members are ready for New Orleans.



Pictured are Chrisry Van Horn, Loretta Tonak, Carrie Manders, Yvonne Gatley, and Glenda Reynolds.



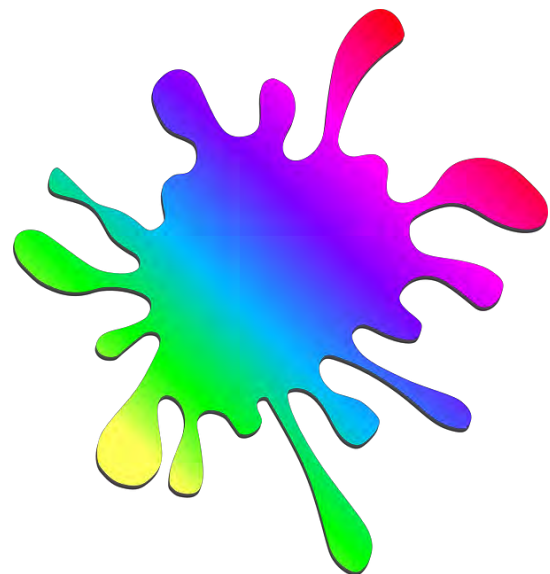
Becky Tish plays before and after sessions. She was a members of the convention's steering committee in charge of music.



Yvonne Gatley, with daughter-in-law Holly, presents a workshop about praise. Yvonne also presented a workshop and breakout with the international EEC committee. Glenda Reynolds presented with the international finance committee.



President Loretta plays with Becky and talks at the North West Regional Breakfast.



Newbees Christy Van Horn and Carrie Manders



I always look forward to international conferences, but I had never attended a convention before and didn't know what to expect. As usual, my expectations were exceeded. I arrived a day early to enjoy a friend's birthday. New Orleans was humid but not as bad as I thought it would be. It was uniquely beautiful, with above-ground graveyards, waterways, and narrow streets. The next day, my friend and I walked to the venue of the convention. Wow...the hotel was fantastic. Throughout the convention, I enjoyed the whole place – large windows in the front to observe the city's activity were especially nice. New Orleans was perfect for amazing food, great music, and historical site-seeing.

The convention itself was interesting. I had no idea what went on when dealing with amendments to our constitution. It was quite a process – one I didn't necessarily enjoy but admired those who put in so much work to make our society more efficient and effective.

My ah-ha? I believe you can take one or more useful pieces of information from all training. This convention was no different. The breakout sessions were excellent. I learned to laugh through life's hard times, the right way to run a meeting, and many ways to grow our chapters.

If a DKG member has never attended an International Convention, I highly recommend doing so.

By Carrie Manders

The 2022 DKG International Convention in New Orleans was my first convention. As a “newbee,” I attended a convention-101 session where I connected with a mentor from Texas and met other newbies. This was a great way to ease into the four days of general sessions, constitutional amendments, workshops, food, and fun! I found the general sessions very interesting as we trudged through the constitutional amendments. The workshops were tailored to everyone's needs which allowed me to spend time on my state office, chapter position, and myself. The best part of this convention was the company I was with. I got to know my fellow state officers better and met so many ladies from around the world! If you haven't attended a DKG International Convention, I highly encourage you to sign up for the next one!

By Christy Van Horn





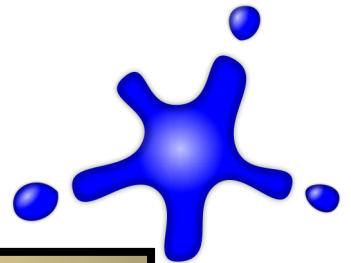
Time for Fun



DKGIEF Event at Mardi Gras World



DKG Society Dinner



Shining Chapters Reporting From Around the State



Kappa Chapter A favorite of Kappa members is the annual Founder's Day dinner. Members participated in 'name that founder' by attaching a founder's name to their forehead via a post-it. Many laughs ensued as members learned more about the 12 DKG founders. See the picture for one group as they worked through the clues to determine which founder



they were.

New officers were installed in May on Founder's Day. Kappa is in good hands with Co-presidents Yvonne Gatley and Claire Gerber, Secretary Ariel Downing, and Treasurer Michaela Escoto.



Induction of new members was held in both May and September. Colleen Goss was inducted in May with a reinduction of former member Pam O'Connell. Induction of Stephanie Ellis occurred in September. We welcome them to Kappa.

September's meeting was held at Michaela's house and included planning for the year. The rain kept us inside instead of playing yard games, but as educators, we were flexible and enjoyed chatting.

October found us catching up with our friend Claudia Estrada from Guatemala. Via Zoom, we learned about the education system in this country and how DKG members in Guatemala support various projects and programs. These Zoom meetings have broadened our global view of education, and we hope to continue learning more in the year to come.



Kappa members have a busy year planned, which will culminate with hosting Wyoming State Convention in May. We hope to see all of you here in Sheridan, May 19 - 21.



Submitted by Yvonne Gatley



Phi Chapter Phi chapter started its year off with an ice cream social at Lions Park. Sisters caught up with each other as they enjoyed the beautiful weather as well as the camaraderie. President Kylie Foster gave a brief overview of the upcoming year as members were given an opportunity to sign up for committees. Sandra Gothard graciously donated a beautiful Christmas quilt to raffle off as a chapter fundraiser. Be sure to contact a Phi sister to buy a ticket! In September all three Cheyenne

chapters gathered for our annual potluck. After a delicious meal, each chapter held a short business meeting. The October meeting was a “meet and greet” with candidates running for the local school board hosted by Phi Chapter. Upsilon Chapter and public members joined us for this informative meeting.



Submitted by Cathy Foster



Upsilon Chapter The DKG upilon chapter spent the summer planning a full 2022-23 year with the biennium in mind. The executive board met twice to complete the yearbook and programs for our chapter.

Our year started off with a tri-chapter dinner with the three Cheyenne chapters meeting for dinner. The food and friendship were great. Each chapter started the year with its first meeting and got the 2022 year off to a great start. Phi chapter invited Upsilon to meet with them in October to meet and greet the candidates running for the school board. We look forward to meeting the candidates and discussing our educational concerns. Other programs planned for the year include learning about the new PATHWAYS program being utilized at our community college, listening to the Cheyenne All-City Children's choir, hearing about members' adventures of teaching all over the world, finding a way for a dream vacation and touring the Old West Museum.

Our committees continue to work on maintaining our membership and our money-making project, our Booksale. We look forward to this year and appreciate all the hard work that everyone contributes to DKG.

Submitted by Marian Grann

CHAPTERS From Page 11



Theta Chapter Theta Chapter has been busy putting together our plan for the year. To begin, we have decided to continue supplying elementary school nurses with socks, panties, and slacks for children with soiled pieces of clothing. Last year we started this project at the behest of a school nurse who mentioned that she was entirely out of garments for the K-3 grade students and wished that she could entice folks to return the items. We put together the necessary pieces and took them to that school. It was a success which encouraged us to add a couple more schools to the project. This year we added even more schools. Folks are delighted to have our donations, and even principals have commented on the thoughtfulness of our chapter.

Further, we are putting together a plan to help teachers supplement their rooms by decorating, buying books, or enhancing learning. We would give a small grant-in-aid attained through writing a short description of their want or need.

At the same time, we hope to find a way to offer a scholarship to a high school girl. Lots to think about.

At our meeting in early August, we agreed to continue the "Eat, Greet, Grow" project, which focuses on getting together, reading books for children, and giving each a book of their choice to take home. There is much frivolity, artwork, food, reading, and laughter—a good endeavor.

Sadly, we have lost a long-time member, Martha Reimer. She was dedicated to our chapter, and we will miss her.

Submitted by Michele Janota,



Chi Chapter We started the season with a tailgate party hosting our state president. Members shared excitement for the school year and what is to come for the year. We shared dates of events and signed up to be hostesses for the events. Loretta shared her ideas for the state and cheered us on as we begin our year of service.

Submitted by Alivia Bingham



Radiant Sunflowers

Jody McCormack Is the Wyoming Middle School Science Teacher of the Year



Jody McCormack, Lambda Chapter was named the Wyoming Middle School Science Teacher of the Year in May 2022.

Jody has a tremendous impact on students in the classroom. Her love for science and her expertise in the subject matter is apparent every single day. Jody is excellent at helping special education students learn by delivering the content at a level that is understandable for a student with disabilities. She is a team player who makes accommodations to ensure each student can perform at his/her level. For example, when the students write a scientific explanation in the form of a claim, evidence, reasoning, or CER, Jody broke the process into small steps for which she held the students accountable along the way. This process made a tremendous difference for my students and is just one example of Jody's dedication to helping students learn in her classroom.

Jody finds creative ways to meet science and engineering standards while incorporating activities students will find interesting. In her science exploratory class, students have met the engineering standards by designing and creating paper roller coasters that meet specific criteria. Students also create rockets with a working parachute to gently land the "Eggstronaut." Her students work collaboratively to meet the goals of each design challenge. Students have enjoyed pancakes and homemade ice cream - all in the name of science - learning about chemical reactions and freezing points. She uses the 5E approach to teaching science, where students become engaged with an interesting phenomenon and connect what they will learn with what they already know. When they were beginning to explore particle motion and temperature, she brought in the drinking (insatiable) birds to mystify her students and spark their curiosity about the topic. These are some ways she keeps her students engaged in their learning.

Jody is also a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, a teaching organization for women, for the past 14 years. She has held the position of Chapter President for six years and attends conferences yearly.

Submitted by Jennifer Steveson

**Let's hear about your chapter and its members!
Send your news to Glenda at
griebhart@aol.com**

Wyoming State Organization Welcomes New and Returning Members

Kappa (Sheridan)
Ariel Downing
Colleen Goss
Stephanie Ellis

Upsilon (Cheyenne)
Kathy Eckhardt
Kathleen Horton

Phi (Cheyenne)
Linda Brown
April Clark



Check out Society Website Resources (dkg.org)

- ◆ Chapter Tools
- ◆ Ceremonies
- ◆ Logos and Music
- ◆ Brochures
- ◆ And more



Dates to Remember

Meetings/Conventions/ Regional Conferences

Wyoming State Organization Convention
Sheridan
May 19-21, 2023

DKG International Conferences
Detroit, Michigan
July 11-16, 2023

Phoenix, Arizona
July 18-22, 2023

Tampere, Finland
July 26-29, 2023

Applications & Report Deadlines

November 1, 2022
DKGIEF Cornet Award for Professional Development
[DKGIEF Home](#)

November 15, 2022
All treasurers to file IRS 990 (US only)

March 1, 2023
Project Application
[DKGIEF Home](#)

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Seek, Soak, Shine and Grow



Mission Statement

Delta Kappa Gamma promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.



Vision Statement

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

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